



BOOTHBAY REGION LAND TRUST

Preservation • Education • Conservation

Newsletter Issue 89

Fall 2010

STEWARDSHIP: IT'S MORE THAN YOU MIGHT THINK

With thirty miles of trails on BRLT preserves as well as innumerable bridges, boardwalks, parking areas and kiosks, one might assume that “stewardship” means a chainsaw, clippers, hammer or backhoe will not be too far behind. And, yes, stewardship of the BRLT properties and trails does entail regular attention to keeping trails cleared of fallen logs, leveling parking lots after rain storms dig gullies into them, and repairing kiosks and signs marred by occasional vandalism. Sometimes these kind of stewardship projects can get even more complicated, such as the rebuilding of Damariscove’s stone pier, and the installation of bridges to increase visitor access at Penny Lake and Oven’s Mouth.

But stewardship for the BRLT means more than just the hard work of maintaining visitor access to our preserves. BRLT properties are the backbone of a network of habitats that support the current and future ecological and economic prosperity of the Boothbay peninsula. Ensuring that

this “ecological savings account” continues to gain value for future generations requires thought about the contribution each preserve makes toward supporting wetlands, forests, and fields, and the plants, birds and other wildlife that need these oases to survive. Our preserves also serve vitally important roles in water filtration, aquifer recharge, flood prevention, and the elimination of air pollutants and greenhouse gases.

Stewardship sometimes requires thinking about how to balance these

ecological support roles with visitor access. That’s why we ask dog owners to keep dogs leashed on some preserves in the summer when many birds of grasslands and shrubs (and some in forests) have nests on or near the ground. That’s also why we strive to maintain components of dead trees standing or on the ground in many of our forested preserves since they are critical for the survival of many birds, small mammals, salamanders, snakes, invertebrates,

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Stewardship at its best: Dedicated BRLT volunteers help with the cleanup on Damariscove Island in early September.
(photo by Mike Pander)

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Newsletter

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with soy-base ink

FROM THE DESK OF NAT



In my first newsletter as president of the BRLT, I am pleased to welcome six new board members: Bill Culina, Pauline Dion, Mohamed Osman, Ted Smith, Rob Whitten and Patty Zinkowski. Thanks to a nominating committee that included professionals in the region who are not on the board, we have successfully extended our community outreach, a major goal in our 30th year. We now have new members active in other important community organizations such as the YMCA, the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, and the Rotary club. We have again added board members whose professional activities are

allied with BRLT interests: green energy production, low-impact building practices, community farming and expertise in botany and horticulture.

New board members will be participating in ongoing fundraising activities, further developing our education programs, and expanding our trail system. Mohamed Osman, our new treasurer, brings to the board valuable professional skills as an accountant and IT specialist. Jim Dun, a board member for many years and former treasurer, will serve as vice president, while Joe Gelarden continues as secretary.

A recent innovation at our monthly board meetings is the inclusion of commu-

Continued on page 8

NICK: ROAD TO ACCREDITATION GETS A BOOST

Recently, the land trust community instituted an accreditation program for land trusts across the country. Independent accreditation assures the quality and permanence of land conservation while publicly recognizing an organization's ability to protect natural places and working lands forever. Preparing for accreditation provides land trusts the opportunity to review and implement policies, streamlining their operations and leading to more effective land conservation. Last year, the BRLT Board of Directors voted to begin this process.

In September, the Boothbay Region Land Trust was one of only five organizations to receive a boost on their way to accreditation from the Maine Land Trust Excellence Program. This service is provided in partnership by Maine Coast Heritage Trust and the Land

Trust Alliance with support from the Pew Charitable Trusts and private donors. The program will enable the BRLT to hire a consultant to conduct an initial assessment of our organization. Using the findings from the assessment, we will work with the consultant to create a work plan to address any identified shortcomings. The program will provide up to \$18,000 in funding.

The path to accreditation is bound to be challenging and time consuming, but I know we will emerge a more secure land trust. The BRLT has accomplished great things over the past 30 years. We understand the important role we play in the community and will continue the commitment to our many varied programs – from land protection and stewardship to environmental education – as we strengthen the core of our organization.

Boothbay Region Land Trust

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Boothbay Region Land Trust is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization

OCEAN POINT CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The BRLT is pleased to report that it has met a \$25,000 challenge gift and has raised \$230,000 to date in support of the Ocean Point preserve project. More than 120 households and two foundations have contributed toward this important project. The campaign goal now stands at \$375,000, which includes acquisition, stewardship and transactions costs, as well as a contribution to the general endowment. The BRLT extends its appreciation to the landowners for their help in making the campaign successful by generously reducing their asking price.

The project seeks to preserve 25 acres on Ocean Point in Boothbay. The land, an open space oasis in a densely developed area, includes a freshwater pond, wetland, vernal pool and upland buffer, providing significant habitat for birds and mammals. Protection of this land will bring the total wetland acreage protected by the BRLT to 93 acres. To

date, board member and professional ornithologist Jeff Wells has identified 85 migrant and breeding bird species on the property. The site supports state-listed endangered or threatened species, including the Black-crowned Night Heron, Least Bittern, Bald Eagle, and Common Moorhen.

The preserve will provide excellent hiking, ice skating and birding opportunities for residents and visitors, as well as educational opportunities for the BRLT and its partners at the local schools and the Boothbay Region YMCA.

The grants committee is continuing to submit grants for the project and we encourage those who have not yet contributed to consider a gift for the project in 2010. We also ask everyone to let your family, friends and neighbors know about this important project. [For more information](#), contact Julie at jlamy@bbrlt.org or (207) 633 4818.



The wetland at Ocean Point

Stewardship *(Continued from page 1)*

mushrooms, and lichens, among others. In addition, dead wood on the ground is surprisingly important for slowing water flow to protect soil from erosion and decrease flooding. It's why we prevent access to the north end of Damariscove Island in summer when the ground is covered under raspberry bushes and other shrubs with hundreds of down-filled Common Eiders nests while the females patiently wait for their eggs to hatch. Stewardship also means that some trails are routed away from sensitive locations where shallow soils would be quickly worn away and eroded by too many hiking boots or where shorebirds feed to get enough energy for their long winter journey to South America.

The BRLT's concept of stewardship is in reality a concept of stewardship to our Boothbay peninsula community. The preserves, trails, and working waterfront that we maintain represent our commitment to ensuring a prosperous and hopeful future for our children and grandchildren who love the communities of the Boothbay peninsula and call it home or a home away from home.



Trail Opening: A branch cutting ceremony was held in August for the new trailhead and kiosk at the BRLT-owned property on McKay Road, part of the River~Link project. There to celebrate were (left to right): Larry Brown, Ramona Hanley-Warner, Bob Leone, Amanda Devine, Nick Ullo, Mark Warren, Jonathan McKane, Maureen Hoffman, Steven Hufnagel, and Gail Richter. *(photo by Paula Roberts)*

ANNUAL DINNER CELEBRATES 30

The BRLT's 30th anniversary was topped off with a grand birthday party/annual dinner and meeting at the Linekin Bay Resort, the lead sponsor throughout this celebratory year. 160 members (a record number) enjoyed superb food, an elegant yet rustic setting on water's edge, and lovely decorations by Carol and Tom Prytherch. Marking the occasion was an inspiring and stimulating keynote address by Dr. Howard Corwin, recipient of the Land Trust Alliance's Volunteer of the Year award.

Dr. Corwin highly complimented the BRLT's achievements over its three decades, citing its growth from a single one-acre preserve to protecting more than 1,700 acres, many miles of shoreline, working waterfront, and providing the community with more than 30 miles of hiking trails. He emphasized the critical importance of volunteers in carrying out our mission to protect the natu-

ral beauty and habitat of the Boothbay peninsula.

The regular annual meeting followed the dinner, when executive director Nick Ullo recognized the creators of the BRLT's magnificent new trail guide as well as the retiring board members. Nick also led the audience in a rousing 30th anniversary song written by West Boothbay Harbor's Art Barnes.

Development and outreach director Julie Lamy extended a heartfelt thanks to members and donors for their critical support and read a 30th anniversary poem written by David Morse.

President Bill Haney proposed six new outstanding board members (see article next page) who were elected unanimously, as was the slate of officers for the coming year. Nat Wing is the new president (see his letter on page 2), Jim Dun is vice president, Mohamed Osman is our new treasurer, and Joe Gelarden continues as secretary.



A SONG BY ART BARNES (SUNG TO THE TUNE OF "HOME ON THE RANGE")

VERSE 1

THREE DECADES AGO, WHEN THE L'IL
RIVER DAM
WAS THE START OF THE BRLT
AND WE NEVER LOOKED BACK WITH THE
ADDITION OF ZAK
AND THE FUTURE LOOKS ALL FAIR TO SEE

CHORUS

WE STRIVE TO PRESERVE AND ENJOY ALL
OUR WORK THRU THE YEARS
WHETHER SKI, HIKES OR WALKS OR IN-
FORMATIVE TALKS
FROM OUR STAFF AND OUR FINE VOLUN-
TEERS

VERSE 2

OUR MISSION IS CLEAR AS WE GO THRU
THE YEAR
AND SUPPORT ALL THE PROJECTS WE
SHARE
THE WETLANDS, THE WOODS, AND THE
ISLANDS AND SHORE
AND THE BOAT BUILDERS FEST'VAL SO
FAIR

REPEAT CHORUS

A POEM BY DAVID MORSE

BOOTHBAY REGION LAND TRUST

AS STEWARDS OF THESE LANDS
WE HAVE A SOLEMN OBLIGATION
THE CHALLENGE IS "FOREVER",
THAT'S BEYOND IMAGINATION
WE WILL ALL COME AND GO
WHILE OUR LEGACY LIVES ON,
WOODLAND TRAILS THAT WILL INSPIRE
UNSPOILED ISLANDS GREET THE DAWN
WE ARE THE VOICE, PROTECTORS ALL;
ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE WE MUST
RESPOND TO NATURE'S SILENT CALL
AND SUPPORT OUR LOCAL LAND TRUST

(Photo by Tracey Hall)



MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Six outstanding new board members were elected at the annual meeting on Sept. 28th. As a group, they represent all the towns on the Boothbay peninsula, bringing youthful energy and an unusually broad variety of experience and expertise to the BRLT as we enter our fourth decade.

Bill Cullina is a nationally known authority on native plants, having been director of research at the New England Wildflower Society, and presently is Director of Horticulture at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. He lives on Southport.

Pauline Dion of East Boothbay, born and raised on a Maine produce farm, has retained a keen interest in land use, and is active in many local community organizations, especially the YMCA and junior sailing programs.

Mohamed Osman (also the BRLT's new Treasurer) is managing partner in Osman Page, a Boothbay Harbor accounting and information technology firm. His wife, Jennifer Page, is a Boothbay native, graduated from the local high school, and is a partner in the firm. They met during their college years in Cairo, Egypt, when she spent a Junior Year abroad while at Bowdoin.

Ted Smith, an Edgecomb resident, has widespread family roots in the region, including his daughter, Evie, who worked as an intern at BRLT. Formerly with Hodgdon Yachts, Ted now works for Midnight Oil Company where he focuses on alternative energy.

Thanks to the hard work of (left to right) Susan Lloyd, Peggy Voight, and Judy Eastwood, the BRLT was able to offer an outstanding new trail guide during its 30th anniversary year. *(photo by Nick Ullo)*



Welcome: New BRLT Board Members include (clockwise from upper left): Pauline Dion, Bill Cullina, Ted Smith, Rob Whitten, Patty Zinkowski and Mohamed Osman *(composite photo by Nick Ullo)*

Rob Whitten, of East Boothbay and whose family members have been lifelong summer residents of the Boothbay region, is a distinguished architect with a practice based in Portland. He recently built a LEED Gold (a certification of green design) home, and has received many awards for design excellence.

Patty Zinkowski lives on a horse farm on Barters Island where she moved full time after many years in the Boston area working as a business executive and serving on the board of several leading non-profit organizations.

Help!

After an upgrade in database software, we encountered some challenges and are diligently working to get our member contact information current. Please call the office at (207) 633-4818 or e-mail Skye at vwood@bbrlt.org if your contact information on the BRLT newsletter is incorrect. We apologize for any mailing mishaps and are grateful for your patience!

LOOKING BACK...AND FORWARD

AT YEAR END, YOUR SUPPORT IS MOST WELCOME!

The Boothbay Region Land Trust is preparing to head into its next 30 years. Your contributions through membership, annual appeal gifts, and other donations make our land conservation, stewardship and educational work possible. We thank you for making this incredible year possible – new trails, expanded environmental education programs and more. The BRLT relies on year-end gifts from many of you to help us move ahead on solid footing. [Please also consider a donation](#) to the Land Trust in lieu of a holiday or other gift. We will send your friend or family member a note on a beautiful Land Trust card informing them that a gift was made in their honor.

LOOKING AHEAD: THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY

Many of you were moved by Dr. Corwin's speech at our Annual Dinner meeting. Dr. Corwin addressed critical 21st century issues such as clean water, which is currently a plentiful resource in Maine but scarce throughout much of the world. Regionally, the loss of our natural resources could be profound. The State Planning Office predicts that by 2050, all land south of Augusta will be reclassified from rural to suburban. Locally, our community – through its aquaculture, tourism, and second home market – is dependent on the health of our ecosystem.

Inspired by these global, regional and local themes, our [2011 educational events](#) will focus on stewardship of our natural resources and their economic importance. We will be offering a series on what we need to do on our peninsula to preserve our unique ecosystems and to be good stewards of the land. Watch for more information.

Thanks to all our 2010 office volunteers – we couldn't operate without you!

Nancy Adams	Howard Kramer
Sandy Barth	Angie McLellan
John Brennan	Nancy Raithel
Merry Knowlton	Mary Ellen Turner



Another Successful Boat Builders Festival: When the pirates arrived, they drew a crowd on the dock. (photo by Julie Lamy)

NEW 2010 AQUAHEGA SOCIETY MEMBERS WELCOMED

The Aquahega Society has been established to honor our generous supporters who have included the BRLT in their long-term financial planning and trust and estate bequests, as well as our land and easement donors. Also included are those who have made significant gifts to the organization and its Endowment Fund, which is central to meeting the BRLT's fiduciary responsibilities.

The BRLT would like to recognize its 2010 Aquahega Society inductees: **Sam and Sarah Adams, Arlene V. Reed, and Douglas J. Ringler and Joseph Nawrocki.** Although support of all shapes and sizes is essential, the Aquahega Society provides us with an opportunity to thank this special group of benefactors.



Dr. Joanne Sharpe and Jean Wood lead a wildflower hike at Oven's Mouth preserve in May (photo by Merry Knowlton)

MEMORIAL GIFTS: REMEMBERING A LOVED ONE, HELPING THE LAND TRUST

Sadly, the BRLT lost several special friends over the past year. Many were honored by memorial donations, a thoughtful and meaningful way to recognize an organization whose mission the person (or the person's family) supported and promoted. To show our appreciation for this support, "Memorial Legacy" books, in which memorial gifts are recorded by hand, are displayed at the office. These handsome, handmade books of archival quality rest on a stunning podium constructed by Michael Lewis in recognition of our 30th anniversary, using a sturdy weathered tree trunk as its base.

Open to all to enjoy, the BRLT's preserves are special places because of their exquisite beauty and rich natural

habitat. Memorial gifts are a meaningful way to perpetuate the spirit of a loved one or friend who valued the world of nature and the beauty of the Boothbay peninsula.

In addition, we invite visits to our Memorial Grove at Porter Preserve for those who seek solace or quiet contemplation.



(photo by Nick Ullo)

Memorial Gifts October 2009 – October 2010

In Memory of Nancy H. Barton
Robert Barton
Nancy and David Nyberg

In Memory of Robert and Helen Bowditch
Susan B. Talmadge

In Memory of Beatrice and Mabel Budgell
Kathy Bugbee

In Memory of Juan R. M. Cameron
Ian and Kay G. Glenday

In Memory of Glenn E. Edgerly
Joan Edgerly

In Memory of Weston Figgins
James A. Brown
Judy and Peter Dawson
Abby and John Dunlap
Diane Eakin
Barbara and Nicholas Fowler
John and Marilyn Heise
Allen and Sally Johnson
Shirley and Bob Marden
Barbara (Lee) and Ray Ripley
Ronald and Patricia Wetmore

In Memory of Aaron Goodenberger
Pam and Ron Riml

In Memory of Louis E. Imhof, Jr.
Angela Imhof

In Memory of Louella Metzger
Dianne Blane

In Memory of Toastie Patton
Anthony Seavey Patton and
Christine Card Patton

In Memory of Patricia A. and James Blenn Perkins, Jr.
Sandra L. Perkins

In Memory of David E. Ryer
Joan Bird
Sharon and Doug Beattie
Michael G. Lane
Mary A. Buckholder
Thomas J. and Katherine Kenny
Charles B. Johnson and Jean B. Johnson
Frederick and Ella Crane
Brian and Beverly Mello

In Memory of Elsie A. Schubert
Ingo and Jutta Walter
Pat and Joe Schubert
Chris and Tony Patton
Diane and Dick Shafer

In Memory of Elizabeth P. Silliman
Ed and Lynn Tsuzuki

In Memory of Nils Sjostrom
Lynn and Jim Youtz

In Memory of Phil Slayton
Mary and Peter Ripley

In Memory of Barbara Brackett Tindal
Bill and Jaimie Logan

In Memory of Reginald and Christine Vayo
Jean Hamilton

In Memory of Claude Villard
Friends of the Boothbay Region Land Trust

In Memory of Jean Scheidenhelm Wolff
Ingo and Jutta R. Walter

Honorary Gifts October 2009 – October 2010

In Honor of Nancy Adams
Joan Fischer

In Honor of Charles and Betty Barker
Elliot Barker III

In Honor of Marie Borroff
Robert Shepard

In Honor of Jim and Doreen Dun's Granddaughter, Linnea Hope
Joan Fischer

In Honor of Marily M. Kerney
Beverley and John McCoid

In Honor of Lois and Howard Kramer
Rob Kramer
Jonathan Kramer

In Honor of John and Bev McCoid's Wedding Anniversary
John and Marilyn M. Kerney

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

Looking for a holiday gift? Visit the [BRLT's Osprey Store](#) to find the perfect gift for you or a loved one. Some of our items include:

- New full-color spiral-bound trail guides (see page 5)
- Hooded sweatshirts with full back logo
- Children's/toddler's hooded jackets
- Women's zippered jackets
- Boat Builders posters
- Preserve tee shirts
- Baby tees
- Fleece vests
- Sweatpants
- Hats



Hooded jacket shown on Skye Wood's daughter Magdalena

(photo by her dad Adam Moore)

Call Skye at (207) 633-4818 or stop by the office to order.

Nat (Continued from page 2)

nity leaders, with the hope that they and the BRLT will identify common interests. Our first speaker was John Anderson, outgoing Boothbay town manager. Other presenters will include officials of state and local conservation commissions, and organizations that work with town planners, selectmen and land trusts on conservation issues.

This year I will continue to advocate for protection of working lands, including working waterfront. The BRLT is also seeking ways to provide land for agriculture on the peninsula, possibly assisting in establishing community garden projects that will include education about practices consistent with low-impact cultivation.



BOOTHBAY REGION LAND TRUST
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The Boothbay Region Land Trust seeks to preserve the special beauty and natural resources of the region while providing appropriate public access and recreational opportunities. The BRLT provides and promotes education about wildlife, ecology, conservation and local history.

WE APPRECIATE OUR PRESERVE ADOPTERS!

The BRLT would like to thank its 2010 Preserve Adopters:

- Bath Savings Institution
- Hands of Thyme
- Hannaford
- The Knickerbocker Group



Employees from the Knickerbocker Group keep hikers' feet dry by constructing small bridges at Zak preserve.

When you are patronizing these businesses, please thank them for their role in being good stewards and supporting our community preserves.

NAME OUR NEWSLETTER AND WIN "BRLT BILLS"

The BRLT's newsletter began in a "letter format" in 1981. In 1982, it took on a traditional newsletter format and by 1994 assumed its present format. In 2005, it went full-color. Editors have included Lois Barge (now deceased), Dawn Kidd, Peggy Voight, Joe Gelarden and currently Nancy Hall. It has always said "Boothbay Region Land Trust" across the top. We think it's time for our newsletter to be named. Please e-mail Skye at vwood@bbrlt.org or call (207) 633-4818 with your name submission by January 15. Past newsletter editors as well as the current editor will choose the winner, who will receive \$30 worth of "BRLT Bills" for use at the Land Trust's Osprey Store and the winning name on the cover of the newsletter.